



REPORT

BY THE

COLLEGE COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN-COUNCIL OF EDINBURGH,
PATRONS OF THE UNIVERSITY,

REGARDING THE

STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY RELATIVE TO
THE DEGREE OF M.D.

APPROVED OF BY THE MAGISTRATES AND COUNCIL ON
27TH OCTOBER 1846.

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REPORT.

EDINBURGH, 1st October 1846.

On 11th November last, the MAGISTRATES and COUNCIL remitted the following Letter to the COLLEGE COMMITTEE, to consider the same, and report thereon :—

COLLEGE, 11th November 1845.

MY LORD,—The Senatus Academicus having deemed it expedient to make some alterations in the Rules for Graduation in Medicine, I have the honour to transmit a copy of the amended Statutes to your Lordship, in order that they may receive the sanction of the Patrons.

I beg at the same time to remark, that the period of the Session renders it very desirable that the new Regulations should be communicated to other Schools with the least possible delay.—I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient Servant,

JAMES SYME,

Dean of the Medical Faculty.

To the Right Honourable

The Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

The papers after-mentioned were subsequently remitted to the Committee, viz. :—

1. Memorial for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, dated 18th November 1845.
2. Memorial of the Royal College of Physicians, dated 20th November 1845.
3. Memorial of the Extra-Academical Lecturers of the Edinburgh School of Medicine, transmitted 24th November 1845.
4. Letter from the President of the College of Surgeons, dated 24th November, transmitting a List of the Extra-

Academical Medical Teachers of Edinburgh, since the beginning of the present century, distinguishing those who had subsequently been elected to be Professors in some of the British Universities.

And there was also laid before the Committee a Note, by the Medical Faculty, on the Memorial of the Extra-Academical Lecturers, which had been laid before the Senatus Academicus, by desire of the Principal, on 29th November 1845.

In addition to these documents the Committee called for the following :—

1. The Statutes of the University relative to the Degree of M.D., 1833.

2. Papers in connexion with the letter of Professor Syme, regarding the present state and future prospects of the Medical School, printed by order of the College Committee, 10th September 1840.

3. Report of the College Committee on the propriety of altering the regulations which require attendance at University Classes exclusively, as qualifying Candidates for the Degree of M.D., dated 7th April 1842. The principle of which report was approved of by the Magistrates and Council, although, from various causes, it has not hitherto been carried into practical effect.

The voluminous papers above referred to having been circulated among the different members of the Committee, afterwards formed the subject of anxious consideration at several of their meetings ; and being desirous to afford to the different parties interested an opportunity of offering such further explanations or statements as they might wish to make, the Committee invited each, in succession, to conferences to be held in the Patrons' room at the College, on Thursday the 4th of June.

The College of Physicians, the College of Surgeons, and the Extra-Academical Teachers, availed themselves of this invitation, and sent deputations of their number, from whom the Committee received much valuable information at the conferences, as well as subsequently, in various written communications, partly furnished at the request of the Committee.

The Medical Faculty declined offering any observations upon the subject in the manner proposed, but stated they were quite ready to give any explanations in writing that might be required for the information of the College Committee.

After having spent some time in considering the written communications received from the deputations of the two Colleges, and of the Extra-Academical Teachers, the Committee resolved to take advantage of the offer of the Medical Faculty to give explanations in writing. Accordingly, a letter was addressed to the Dean on 31st July last, accompanying the whole documents which had been laid before the Committee, and requesting the Faculty to consider whether the information and arguments contained in these had in any degree modified their views with regard to the different proposed changes on the Statutes. At the same time, the Committee desired more particularly to learn the present views of the Medical Faculty on several points to which they deemed it necessary specially to call their attention.

To this letter the Committee received a written statement in reply, dated 10th September, which, as well as the other documents, will be laid before the Council along with this Report.

The Committee do not propose to present to the Council anything like an analysis of the contents of these documents, as they would prefer that those members who may take an interest in the question should peruse them at length.

The subject has again fully occupied the attention of the Committee, and they beg now to report as follow :—

1. That, by the Statutes presently in force, four years of study are required in order to qualify a Student to become a Candidate for the Degree of M.D. ;* during his curriculum

* An exception is made in favour of those Students who, in addition to three Anni Medici in a University, have attended, during six months at least, the Medical or Surgical practice of a General Hospital, which accommodates not less than eighty patients, and, during the same period, a Course of Practical Anatomy ; in which case, three years of University study are admitted, provided the Students have attended, during the three University years, all the classes required by the Statutes, with the exception of Practical Anatomy, under Professors in a University.

he must attend fourteen different classes; such attendance can only be given in this or in some other University having power to confer the Degree; one year's attendance is, however, required in the University of Edinburgh.

2. That the Senatus propose to change this system, in so far as to place Teachers of Medicine connected with the London Hospital Schools, and the School of the College of Surgeons in Dublin, on a level with Professors in other Universities.

3. That in this way, a Student, after completing his Course of Study by attendance for three years at the London or Dublin Extra-Academical Schools, and one at the University of Edinburgh, might present himself as a Candidate for the Degree.

4. That the Extra-Academical Lecturers of Edinburgh claim an equality of privilege with the Teachers of the Hospital Schools of London, and the School of the College of Surgeons of Dublin; and that the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons concur in opinion that this claim should be conceded, while the Medical Faculty object to the concession.

5. That while the University is entitled to the chief regard of the Patrons, it is of importance to the interests of Medical Science, and of the City, to foster the Extra-Academical School of Edinburgh, to which the University is indebted for eight of the twelve Professors at present composing the Faculty of Medicine; and, in the opinion of the Committee, the claim of the Edinburgh Extra-Academical School to an equality of privilege with the Schools of London and Dublin, is fair and reasonable, and ought to be conceded by the Patrons. At the same time, the Committee cannot help thinking, that the Medical Faculty of the University have gone too far in proposing to open up the curriculum to the extent of three years out of four, in favour of the Schools of London and Dublin. No doubt, when they did this, they proposed to exclude the Extra-Academical School of Edinburgh from all advantage, excepting that to be gained by the attendance of those Students who might choose to repeat any particular course, which they were at liberty to do without the University. But, as the Committee differ with the Medical Faculty on

this point, and propose to place the foresaid Extra-Academical Schools of London, Dublin, and Edinburgh, on an equality, so they recommend, that the Council should not now go farther than carry out the principle of the recommendation contained in the Report of 7th April 1842, extending it, however, to the said Schools of London and Dublin, and thus permit Candidates for Medical Degrees to take one-third of the imperative classes under Teachers in any one of these Extra-Academical Schools.

6. That to carry this object into effect, the Committee propose that the Council should add the following Section to the Statutes transmitted by the Medical Faculty in November last, and should also make some verbal alterations on the Statutes, that they may be consistent with the Section to be introduced :—

Attendance on the lectures of Teachers of Medicine in the Hospital Schools of London, or School of the College of Surgeons in Dublin, or of Teachers of Medicine in Edinburgh, recognised as such by the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh (in accordance with regulations to be adopted by these Colleges jointly, and approved of by the Patrons of the University), shall, to the extent of one-third of the whole departments required by Section II., Clause 1, to be studied by Candidates, be held equivalent to attendance under Professors in this or in some other University, as already defined. And such attendance shall be available to Candidates to the extent of one of the four years of study required by Section I., provided it has embraced, in one year, at least two Six Months' Courses of Lectures, or one of these and two Three Months' Courses.

7. That the Committee have guarded the concession by requiring that the Extra-Academical Teachers of Edinburgh, whose certificates of attendance shall be received as qualifying Candidates for the Degree, shall be Teachers of Medicine, recognised as such by the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, in accordance with regulations to be adopted by these Colleges jointly, and approved of by the Patrons of the University. One of these regulations, the Committee are of opinion, should be to the effect, that for every Ticket to be

ultimately presented as evidence of attendance with a view to graduation, there shall be paid a fee of the same amount with that exigible by the Medical Professors in the University. To this arrangement the Committee are hopeful that these learned bodies will not offer any objection.

The Committee subjoin to this report the Statutes as transmitted by the Medical Faculty, in November last, shewing in foot-notes the words which they have recommended to be deleted, and in italics those which they propose shall be added.

The Statutes, as thus amended, the Committee recommend should be sanctioned by the Patrons.

Reported by

WM. DUNCAN,

Convener of the College Committee.

STATUTES

OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, RELATIVE TO THE DEGREE OF M.D.

1845.

SECT. I. No one shall be admitted to the Examinations for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine who has not been engaged in medical study for four years, during at least six months of each, in the University of Edinburgh, *or* in some other University where the Degree of M.D. is given ;* unless, in addition to three Medical Sessions so constituted, he has attended, during at least six winter months, the Medical or Surgical Practice of a General Hospital, which accommodates at least eighty patients, and during the same period a course of Practical Anatomy.

SECT. II. No one shall be admitted to the Examinations for the Degree of Doctor who has not given sufficient evidence,—

1. That he has studied, once at least, each of the following departments of Medical Science, under Professors† of Medicine, in this or *in* some other University,‡ as already defined, viz :—

ANATOMY,	During Courses of Six Months.
CHEMISTRY,	
MATERIA MEDICA and PHARMACY,	
INSTITUTES of MEDICINE or PHY-	
SIOLOGY,	
PRACTICE of MEDICINE,	
SURGERY,	
MIDWIFERY, and the DISEASES pecu- liar to WOMEN and CHILDREN, GENERAL PATHOLOGY, or in Schools where there is no such course, a Three Months' Course of Lectures on Morbid Anatomy, together with a supplemental course of Practice of Medicine, or Clin- ical Medicine,	

* The words "in the Hospital Schools of London,—or in the School of the College of Surgeons in Dublin," have been deleted.

† The words "or Teachers" have been deleted.

‡ The word "University" has been substituted for that of "School."

PRACTICAL ANATOMY (unless it has been attended in the year of extra-academical Study allowed by SECT. I.)	During Courses of Six Months.
CLINICAL MEDICINE, that is, the Treatment of Patients in a Public Hospital, under a Professor of Medicine, by whom Lectures on the cases are given,	
CLINICAL SURGERY,	During Courses of Six Months, or two Courses of Three Months.
MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE,	
BOTANY,	at least Three Months.
NATURAL HISTORY, including ZOOLOGY,	

2. That in each year of his Academical Studies in Medicine, he has attended at least two Six Months' Courses of Lectures, or one of these and two Three Months' Courses.

3. That, besides the course of Clinical Medicine already prescribed, he has attended, for at least six months of another year, the Medical or Surgical Practice of a General Hospital, either at Edinburgh or elsewhere, which accommodates not fewer than eighty patients.

4. That he has been engaged, for at least six months, by Apprenticeship or otherwise, in Compounding and Dispensing Drugs at the Laboratory of an Hospital, Dispensary, Member of a Surgical College or Faculty, Licentiate of the London or Dublin Society of Apothecaries, or a professional Chemist or Druggist.

5. That he has attended, for at least six months, by Apprenticeship or otherwise, the Out-practice of an Hospital, or the Practice of a Dispensary, Physician, Surgeon, or Member of the London or Dublin Society of Apothecaries.

SECT. III. *Attendance on the lectures of Teachers of Medicine in the Hospital Schools of London, or School of the College of Surgeons in Dublin, or of Teachers of Medicine in Edinburgh, recognised as such by the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh (in accordance with regulations to be adopted by these Colleges jointly, and approved of by the Patrons of the University), shall, to the extent of one-third of the whole departments required by Section II., Clause 1, to be studied by Candidates, be held equivalent to attendance under Professors in this or in some other University, as already defined. And such attend-*

ance shall be available to Candidates to the extent of one of the four years of study required by Section I., provided it has embraced, in one year, at least two Six Months' Courses of Lectures, or one of these and two Three Months' Courses.

SECT. IV.* No one shall obtain the Degree of Doctor who has not studied, in the manner already prescribed, for at least one year previous to his Graduation, in the University of Edinburgh.

SECT. V. Every Candidate must deliver, before the 31st of March of the year in which he proposes to Graduate, to the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine,—

1. A Deelaration, in his own handwriting, that he is twenty-one years of age, or will be so before the day of Graduation ; and that he will not be then under articles of apprenticeship to any Surgeon or other master.

2. A Statement of his Studies, as well in Literature and Philosophy as in Medieine, accompanied with proper Certificates.

3. A Medieal Dissertation composed by himself, in Latin or English ; to be perused by a Professor, and subject to his approval.

SECT. VI. Before a Candidate be examined in Medieine, the Medical Faculty shall ascertain, by examination, that he possesses a competent knowledge of the Latin Language.

SECT. VII. If the Faculty be satisfied on this point, they shall proceed to examine him, either viva voee, or in writing ; first, on Anatomy, Chemistry, Botany, Institutes of Medieine, and Natural History, bearing chiefly on Zoology ; and, secondly, on Materia Medica, Pathology, Practice of Medicine, Surgery, Midwifery, and Medical Jurisprudence.

SECT. VIII. Students who profess themselves ready to submit to an examination on the first division of these subjects, at the end of the third year of their studies, shall be admitted to it at that time.

SECT. IX. If any one, at these private examinations, be found unqualified for the Degree, he must study during another year two

* The numbers of this and the following Sections, have been altered by reason of the introduction of the 3d, as an additional Section.

of the subjects prescribed in Section II., Clause 1, in this or some other University,* as above defined, before he can be admitted to another examination.

SECT. X. Should he be approved of, he will be allowed, but not required, to print his Thesis; and, if printed, forty copies of it must be delivered before the 25th day of July to the Dean of the Medical Faculty.

SECT. XI. If the Candidate have satisfied the Medical Faculty, the Dean shall lay the proceedings before the Senatus Academicus, by whose authority the Candidate shall be summoned, on the 31st of July, to defend his Thesis; and, finally, if the Senate think fit, he shall be admitted, on the first lawful day of August, to the Degree of Doctor.

SECT. XII. The Senatus Academicus, on the day here appointed, shall assemble at Ten o'clock A.M., for the purpose of conferring the Degree; and no Candidate, unless a sufficient reason be assigned, shall absent himself, on pain of being refused his Degree for that year.

SECT. XIII. Candidates for Graduation shall be required to produce evidence of their having conformed to those Regulations which were in force at the time they commenced their Medical Studies in a University.

* The word "University" has been substituted for that of "School."

